

## PARTY WORKERS GETTING BUSY; NEW PRIMARY LAW RATHER KNOTTY

Interesting Points Discussed—  
Star-Bulletin Invites Sug-  
gestions Generally

The fact that the coming election in Hawaii will be by no means a walk-over for the many-sided, much-divided Democratic party—indeed, that hopes for Republican success are exceedingly bright—has led to much activity in the ranks of the G. O. P. A close study is being made of the new primary election law by Republican leaders, in order that no hole may be overlooked.

The law itself presents more than one interesting problem. It is probably one of the shortest primary laws in existence, which, of course, does not detract from its value in the mind of the ordinary layman. But, brief as is its language, it still contains much food for thought, and will in all probability require some judicial interpretation, perhaps a reconstruction—for they say in these days courts do reconstruct—before its exact meaning will be defined or understood.

**Some Important Provisions.**  
The budding, blushing, bashful aspirant for official honors is required to see to it that his name appears on the official primary ballot which is presented to the voters on the second Saturday in September next, and of each election year succeeding that. This he must do at least 20 days

prior to the fateful Saturday. If he wants to be the delegate to Congress, he must secure the assistance of 25 qualified electors of the territory who shall in formal terms declare their party allegiance, and their overwhelming, unanimous desire that their friends named in the document shall be the standard-bearer of their party. Likewise must they solemnly declare their intention to support the candidate they name. In this case the candidate must be a citizen of the territory, of his natural affiliations, and of his intention should he be elected, of supporting the principles and policies of his party. In the case of county and legislative candidates, the signatures of but 15 friends need be secured. The provisions of the law in this respect are as follows:

Section 5. 1. The name of no candidate shall be printed upon any official ballot to be used in any primary election unless at least twenty (20) days prior to such primary, a nomination shall have been filed in his behalf as provided in this Act in substantially the following form:

We, the undersigned duly qualified electors of the..... District, of the Territory of Hawaii, and members of the..... Party, hereby nominate..... who resides at..... in the County of (or City and County of)..... as a candidate on the ticket for the office of..... to be voted for at the primary held on..... and we further declare that we intend to support the said party and said candidate.

Name of Signor..... District, Precinct.....

I,..... the above-named candidate, do certify that I am a member of the..... Party, and a duly qualified elector of the district in which I am a candidate, that I believe in the principles and policies of the said party, and that, if elected, I will, to the best of my ability, seek to carry out the provisions and pledges of the political platform of said party, and will abide by said party's rules and regulations. The name I wish inserted on the ballot in..... its Hawaiian equivalent is..... and my postoffice address is.....

(Signed).....  
2. All nomination papers shall have substantially the above form written or printed thereon, provided, that those filed for non-partisan candidates may omit the words "and members of the..... party," and the certificate at the foot thereof. No signatures shall be counted, unless they are upon sheets each having this form written or printed thereon, which shall be provided by the county clerk.

3. No person shall sign the nomination papers of more than one candidate for the same office, nor for more than the actual number of offices of one class. Nomination papers shall be construed in this regard according to priority of filing, and the name of any person appearing thereon shall be counted only so long as this provision is not violated, and not thereafter.

4. No name or nomination papers shall be counted, unless the signor is an elector, qualified to vote for the candidate at the next primary county or general election.

5. Nomination papers for candidates for delegate to Congress shall be signed by not less than twenty-five (25) qualified electors of the territory.

6. Nomination papers for candidates for either branch of the legislature and for county office shall be signed by not less than fifteen (15) qualified electors of the district or county or subdivision thereof for which the person nominated is a candidate.

It will at once be seen that platforms must be adopted prior to primary elections, else the candidates will have nothing to certify to. The law is silent as to what platforms the candidate pledges himself to—just the territorial platform, or one county platform, or all county platforms, or all platforms of every nature adopted by his party. This is smooth sailing, however, for candidates who love a party. When it comes to a non-partisan aspirant, he is required to make no declaration whatever—in fact he has nothing to do with his nomination as a non-partisan. The result, so far as the law is concerned, is singular. Fifteen qualified electors, without announcing any party affiliation, would have the right to place the name of Link McCandless on the primary ticket as a candidate for nomination for deputy sheriff at Kaneohe, and the law provides no method by which Link could successfully resist.

Section 6 of the act, when followed to its logical conclusion, is either a joke or a decided reflection as to the regard which candidates have for pledges—more likely the latter was intended. The section reads:

Section 6. In case the person is nominated for more than one party, he shall forthwith file with the proper officer in charge of the preparation of the ballots, a written declaration indicating the party designation under which his name is to be printed on the official primary ballot. In case such candidate fail to do so, his name shall be printed in the non-partisan column.

Should Joe Fern be nominated for a place on the primary ticket, by friends of his, as a Republican, by some more friends as a Bull Moose,

## AT THE BIJOU THEATER



James A. Guilford, one of the prominent comedians and soloists in the Spanning Musical Comedy Company, now presenting "The Goddess of Oahu" at the Bijou theater. He will be heard in several pleasing numbers at the performance this evening.

and by a third lot as a Democrat, he would undoubtedly make the required certificate on each nomination paper, showing himself to belong to, and a part and parcel of, and to believe in all of the three parties named. Notwithstanding this three-repeated declaration of being a party man, he would, should he fail to make a choice between the three chambers, be dubbed by this merciless law as non-partisan.

**As to Independents.**  
The new law evidently has it in for the independent candidate. Anyone placed in nomination at the primaries as a "non-partisan" must secure at the primary election at least 20 per cent of the registered vote cast before he may be a candidate at the election in November. Then, again, when a candidate comes into the primary as a party man, and does not receive the highest number of the party vote, he is compelled to take his medicine. He is not permitted to go before the voter at election as an independent.

As to the primary election itself, no provision seems to have been made to separate the sheep from the goats. A voter, duly qualified, may at these primaries select Smith as the proper Republican candidate for delegate, Jones as the proper Democratic candidate for mayor, and Thompson as a good non-partisan candidate for sheriff. When he trots into the sacred silence and seclusion of the primary election booth, he can change his politics as rapidly as does a federal office holder. In this respect our new law differs radically from that of many states, in which declaration of party principles is required of the voter, and the right to make selections at primaries limited to candidates professing his political faith. The result of the Hawaiian law, it will at once be seen, places it in the hands of a portion of one party to name the candidate of the other. For instance, a general, implied understanding amongst a number of Republicans that a strong candidate for a given office on the Democratic ticket should be beaten for the nomination, would lead them to vote at the primaries for a weaker antagonist, resulting, perhaps, in the naming of a Democratic candidate for that office who had received a minority of the real Democratic vote. This evil is by no means imaginary. So often has the plan above outlined been resorted to on the mainland, that recent legislation uniformly tends towards partisan primaries.

**About Conventions.**  
Does the law eliminate party conventions for the naming of candidates to be voted for at the general election? On its face it does, and there appears to be but little question that the law will stick as to the county and legislative candidates. As for the candidates for delegate to Congress, some doubt has crept in. The Organic Act of the territory provides in Section 85, that the delegate shall be chosen at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of every even year, and at such places as shall be designated by the secretary of the territory. An amendment to Section 85, adopted in 1906, provides as follows:

The legislature of the territory of Hawaii shall have the right to alter or amend any part of the election laws of said territory, including those providing for an election of delegate to Congress, and its action shall be the law, with full binding force, until altered, amended or repealed by Congress.

The new primary law makes provision in Section 16 that any candidate receiving the votes of a majority of the registered voters at the primary election in September shall be held to be duly and legally elected to the office for which he is a candidate at the primary.

The question naturally arises as to what the ruling should be should one of the candidates for delegate at the primary received a majority of all of the votes cast. Would the Organic Act requiring the election to be held in November be construed in such a manner as to make inoperative the provisions of the primary act, in cases

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FORT AND HOTEL STREETS

The members of the Young People's League, instead of meeting in the K. of P. hall tomorrow morning, will attend the services at the Kaili Union church, in response to an invitation from the pastor of that congregation.

From the fact that it now has become self-supporting, the Japanese Makiki church has declared itself ready to withdraw from under the support of the Hawaiian Board of Missions. This announcement was made

at the annual meeting of the church Wednesday evening, which marked the 10th anniversary of its organization. It was reported that the church now has about \$300 in the treasury, and a budget for the coming year, amounting to \$1530, was approved.

From the resinous substance collected by bees from the buds of trees and used by them to stop the crevices in hives a new antiseptic dressing for wounds is being made, says an

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